prog·e·ny (präj'·ə·ni.) *n.* descendants; offspring; children. **progenitive** *a.* pert. to the production of offspring. **progenitor** (prō·jen'·i·ter) *n.* ancestor; forefather [L. *pro*, before; *gignere*, to beget].

prog·no·sis (prag·nō'·sis) *n.* a forecast; (*Med.*) foretelling the course of a disease. *pl.* **prognoses. prognostic** (prag·nas'·tik) *a.* foretelling; forecasting; predicting; *n.* a forecast; a prediction. **prognosticate** *v.t.* to foretell; to predict; to prophesy. **prognostication** *n.* **prognosticator** *n.* [Gk. *pro*, before; *gnōsis*, knowledge].

pro·gram, programme (prō'·gram) *n.* a plan or detailed notes of intended proceedings at a public entertainment, ceremony, etc.; a party policy at election time [Gk. *pro*, before; *gramma*, a writing].

prog·ress (präg'·res) *n.* a moving forward; advancement; development. **progress** (prə·gres') *v.i.* to move forward; to advance; to develop; to improve. **-ion** (prə·gresh'·ən) *n.* the act of moving forward; onward movement; progress. **-ional** *a.* **-ive** *a.* moving forward gradually; advancing; improving; favoring progress or reform. **-ively** *adv.* **-iveness** *n.* **arithmetical progression,** a series of numbers increasing or decreasing by the same amount, e.g. 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, etc. **geometrical progression,** a series of numbers increasing or decreasing by a common ratio, e.g. 3, 9, 27, 81, etc. [L. *progredi, progressus*, to go forward].

pro·hib·it (prō·hib'·it) *v.t.* to forbid; to prevent; to hinder. **-er, -or** *n.* **-ion** (prō·(h)ə·bish'·ən) *n.* the act of forbidding; interdict; the forbidding by law of manufacture, importation, sale, or purchase of alcoholic liquors. **-ionist** *n.* one in favor of prohibition. **-ive, -ory** *a.* tending to forbid, prevent, or exclude; exclusive. **-ively** *adv.* [L. *prohibere*].

pro·ject (prə·jekt') *v.t.* to throw or cast forward; to plan; to contrive; to throw a photographic image on a screen; *v.i.* to jut out; to protrude. **project** (präj'·ekt) *n.* a plan; a scheme; a task. **-ile** (prə·jek'·til) *a.* capable of being thrown; *n.* a heavy missile, esp. a shell or cannon ball. **-ion** *n.* the act of projecting; something that juts out; a plan; delineation; the representation on a plane of a curved surface or sphere; in psychology, mistaking for reality something which is only an image in the mind. **-ive** *a.* **-or** *n.* an apparatus for throwing photographic images, esp. films, on a screen [L. *projicere, projectum*, to throw forward].

pro·lapse (prō'·laps) *n.* (*Med.*) the falling down of a part of the body from its normal position, esp. womb or rectum [L. *prolapsus*, fr. *prolabi*, to fall or slide forward].

pro·lep·sis (prō·lep'·sis) *n.* a figure of speech by which objections are anticipated and answered; an error in chronology, consisting in anteriating an event; *pl.* **prolepses. proleptical** *a.* [Gk. *pro*, before; *lēpsis*, a taking].

pro·le·tar·i·an (prō·lə·te'·ri·ən) *a.* pert. to the proletariat; belonging to the working class; *n.* one of the proletariat. **proletariat** (prō·lə·te'·ri·at) *n.* propertyless wage-earners who live by sale of their labor [L. *proles*, offspring].

pro·lif·er·ous (prō·lif'·er·əs) *a.* (*Biol.*) reproducing freely by cell division; developing anthers. **-ly** *adv.* **proliferate** *v.t.* to bear; *v.i.* to reproduce by repeated cell division. **proliferation** *n.* increase [L. *proles*, offspring; *ferre*, to bear].

pro·lif·ic (prə·lif'·ik) *a.* bringing forth offspring; fruitful, abundantly productive; bringing about results. **-ally** *adv.* [L. *proles*, offspring; *facere*, to make].

pro·lix (prō'·liks) *a.* long drawn out; diffuse; wordy. **-ly** *adv.* **-ity** *n.* [L. *prolixus*].

pro·loc·u·tor (prō·lak'·yə·tər) *n.* a [illegible] of an assembly [L. *pro*; *loquitur*, to speak].

pro·logue (prō'·lawg) *n.* the preface or introduction to a discourse, poem, book, or performance, esp. the address spoken before a dramatic performance; *v.t.* to preface [L. *pro*, before; *logos*, discourse].

pro·long (prō·lawng') *v.t.* to lengthen out; to extend the duration of. **-ation** *n.* the act of lengthening out; a part prolonged; extension [L. *pro*; *longus*, long].

prom (präm) *n.* (*Colloq.*) a formal dance [*Abbrev.* of *promenade*].

prom·e·nade (präm·ə·nād', näd) *n.* a stately walk, generally in a public place; a space adapted for such a walk; a march of dancers as at the opening of a ball or in a set dance; *v.i.* to walk for pleasure, display, or exercise. **-r** *n.* [Fr.].

prom·i·nent (präm'·ə·nənt) *a.* standing out; projecting; conspicuous; distinguished. *adv.* **prominence, prominency** *n.* [L. *prominere*, to jut out].

pro·mis·cu·ous (prə·mis'·kyoo·əs) *a.* without order or distinction; indiscriminate. **-ly** *adv.* **-ness, promiscuity** (präm·ə·skyoo'·ə·ti.) *n.* [L. *promiscuus*, fr. *miscere*, to mix].

prom·ise (präm'·is) *n.* an undertaking to do or not to do something; cause or ground for hope; *v.t.* to give one's word to do something; to give cause for expectation; to agree to give; *v.i.* to assure by a promise; to give grounds for hope. **-r** *n.* **promisee** (*Law*) the person by whom a promise is made. **promising** *a.* likely to turn out well; successful; hopeful [L. *promittere, promissum*, to promise].

prom·is·so·ry (präm'·ə·sōr·i.) *a.* containing a promise. **— note,** written agreement to pay a sum to named person at specified time [L. *promittere*, to promise].

prom·on·to·ry (präm'·ən·tōr·i.) *n.* a headland of high land jutting out into the sea [L. *mons, montorium*, fr. *mons*, a mountain].

pro·mote (prə·mōt') *v.t.* to move forward; to move up to a higher rank or position; to encourage the growth or development of; to help organize a new business venture; to form a company. **-r** *n.* a supporter; an initiator of a new business venture, etc. **promotion** *n.* advancement; preferment; a higher rank, station, or position. **promotive** *a.* [L. *movere, promotum*, to move forward].

prompt (prämpt) *a.* ready and quick to act; done at once; punctual; *v.t.* to encourage; to suggest; to help out (a forgetful speaker) by reading, suggesting words, etc. **-ly** *adv.* **-er** *n.* one who reminds or prompts an actor, speaker, etc. **-itude, -ness** *n.* quickness of decision and action; readiness; quickness [L. *promptus*, fr. *promere*, to put forth].

pro·mul·gate (präm'·əl·gāt) *v.t.* to proclaim; to publish; to make known officially. **promulgation** *n.* [L. *promulgare*].

prone (prōn) *a.* lying face downward; sloping; inclined; naturally disposed to. **-ness** *n.* inclination; tendency [L. *pronus*].

prong (präng) *n.* one of the pointed tines of a fork; a spike [etym. uncertain].

pro·noun (prō·'noun) *n.* (*Gram.*) a word used instead of a noun [*pro* and *noun*].

pro·nounce (prə·nouns') *v.t.* to utter with the correct sound and accent; to speak distinctly; to utter formally or officially; to declare or affirm. **-d** *a.* strongly marked; definite or decided. **-able** *a.* **-ment** *n.* formal declaration. **-r** *n.* pronouncing dictionary, teaching or indicating pronunciation. **pronunciation** (prə·nun·si·ā'·shən) *n.* manner of uttering with the proper sound and accent [L. *pronuntiare*, to proclaim].

pron·to (pron'·tō) *adv.* (*Colloq.*) quickly [Sp.].